

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 SCCT-01 SAM-01

SAB-01 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-05 SIL-01 LAB-04

AID-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /120 W  
----- 114662

O R 131127Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9102

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5351

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LW

SUBJECT: AUG. 13 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT FIERCE FIGHTING IN LEBANON

1. MEDIA REPORTED VIOLENT CLASHES IN LEBANON PREVIOUS DAY.  
PRESS BANNERED: "BEIRUT WITNESSED MOST VIOLENT FIGHTING SINCE  
BEGINNING OF BLOODY WAR IN LEBANON. POLITICAL CONTACTS AND  
CONSULTATIONS CONTINUE." ARTICLES CITED WIRE SERVICE DIS-  
PATCHES ON EXCHANGES OF ARTILLERY AND ROCKET FIRE AFFECTING  
EAST AND WEST BEIRUT. NEWS ABOUT TELL ZAATAR PARTIALLY CON-  
TRADICTORY; SOME REPORTS REFERRED TO CONTINUATION OF SMALL ARMS  
FIRE IN CAMP, BUT MOST REPORTS NOTED CAMP HAD FINALLY FALLEN  
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INTO CHRISTIAN HANDS. ACCORDING TO PRESS, DR. KHOULI STATED  
LAST NIGHT THAT 12,000 PERSONS EVACUATED FROM CAMP,

INCLUDING 3,000 LEBANESE, 100 SYRIANS AND 12 EGYPTIANS.

2. POLITICAL CONTACTS AIMED AT RESTORING CEASEFIRE  
CONTINUED. PRESS REPORTED STATEMENT BY SOURCE CLOSE  
TO KAMAL AS'AD AFFIRMING PRES-ELECT SARKIS WILL TAKE  
OATH OF OFFICE SEPT. 23.

3. IMAM MUSA SADR BROADCAST SPEECH FROM BAALBEK  
URGING PALESTINIANS TO REDIRECT THEIR EFFORTS TO  
LIBERATION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES RATHER THAN SIDE  
BATTLES WHICH PARALYZE WORK OF PLO. SADR CLAIMED HE  
DISAGREED WITH AIM OF JUMBLATT FORCES, WHICH HE ASSERTED  
WAS EXPLOITING PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT TO TOPPLE ARAB  
REGIMES BEGINNING WITH LEBANON. HE SAID THIS REFLECTED  
DESIRE OF GREAT POWERS AND ISRAEL. HE ADDED THAT  
ISRAEL APPARENTLY PREFERRED PRESENCE OF KHATIB'S FORCES  
IN SOUTH LEBANON RATHER THAN AUTHORITY OF SYRIAN ARMY.

4. MEDIA REFRAINED FROM DIRECT CRITICISM OF SINAI  
AGREEMENT AND EGYPTIAN REGIME. HOWEVER, AL-THAWRAH  
CARRIED WIRE SERVICE REPORTS FROM CAIRO OF CLASHES  
BETWEEN POLICE AND EGYPTIAN WORKERS DEMANDING HIGHER  
WAGES.  
MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

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